

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

HENDERSON-UNION RURAL ELECTRIC)
COOPERATIVE CORPORATION REQUEST) CASE NO. 9570
FOR A DEVIATION FROM REGULATIONS)

O R D E R

By letter received May 1, 1986, Henderson-Union Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation ("Henderson-Union") requested a deviation from regulation 807 KAR 5:041, Section 15(3), which requires that a meter be tested each time it is removed from service. The deviation requested would only apply to those meters which are tested many times per year due to their use in locations which have a high turnover of occupants or seasonal reconnects and disconnects such as tenant houses, resort areas, river camps, etc. Following a field investigation on May 23, 1986, by the Commission staff, Henderson-Union filed an addendum to its application on June 23, 1986, to further support its justification for requesting the deviation. In this additional filing it stated that:

a) During March 1986, of 15,037 meters in service, 2,205 meters had been tested more than once during the previous 12-month period.

b) Following the retirement of the head meterman on May 1, 1986, there is only one employee in the meter department and management has decided not to hire a replacement for the employee who retired.

c) In addition to the meters tested due to frequent changes in service location, Henderson-Union is testing approximately 300 meters per month, for various reasons, in addition to those meters tested on the periodic test program.

c) The estimated cost to test each meter is \$10.06. The annual cost for testing 2,205 meters per month, which have already been tested within a 12-month period, would be \$22,182.

The Public Service Commission, having considered the application and evidence of record and being advised, is of the opinion and finds that:

1. The primary reason for requiring the testing of meters each time they are removed from service is to determine if a billing adjustment should be made due to an inaccurate meter.

2. The time interval involved for making adjustments for inaccurate meters is directly related to the amount of the adjustment, and any meter in service which has been tested and its accuracy certified within a 12-month period would be unlikely to have drifted very far out of tolerance; therefore, the request for a deviation as requested by Henderson-Union should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. The request for a deviation from the requirements of regulation 807 KAR 5:041, Section 15(3), be and it hereby is granted to allow meters removed from service to be exempt from being tested if the meter has been tested within the previous 12 months.

2. Any meter removed from service which shows evidence of tampering, or from a service where there has been a complaint about billing, shall be tested regardless of how recently it had previously been tested.

3. The 8-year periodic test shall continue to apply to all residential service meters irrespective of the deviation granted in this Order.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 18th day of July, 1986.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Richard D. Hemmick
Chairman

Robert L. L.
Vice Chairman

Spencer N. Williams
Commissioner

ATTEST:

Executive Director